Update on new Injury Registry

The Department of State Health Services has worked with the Registry Solution Work Group (RSWG) to identify data elements for the new Injury Registry. The Registry Solution Work Group is composed of volunteers who represent various stakeholders such as hospitals, EMS, drowning prevention and agencies involved with traumatic brain injury. The RSWG makes recommendations to DSHS on matters pertaining to the reporting of injuries in Texas.

The RSWG presented their recommendations for data elements pertaining to the reporting of trauma patient data by hospitals and EMS at the May GETAC meeting. The RSWG included in their recommendations data elements pertaining to the reporting of drowning (including near-drowning);

expanded data elements for the reporting of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and spinal cord injury (SCI); and the inclusion of data elements for performance improvement (that will be available for hospitals to utilize but will not be accessible to DSHS) at the August GETAC meeting.

DSHS held webinars in May and June to discuss the RSWG recommended data elements for trauma patients. DSHS is holding additional webinars September 1 and 8, 2011, to discuss RSWG-recommended data elements for drowning, TBI/SCI and performance improvement. Please visit the Injury Program website at www. dshs.state.tx.us/injury/default.shtm for information on how to join the webinar or call (512) 458-7220 for more information. – *Tammy Sajak*

GETAC committee applications accepted through September 30

Interested in serving on a GETAC committee? You have until midnight on September 30 to get your application in to DSHS. Most of the committees have openings. New committee members will be notified in early November and will attend a committee orientation during the GETAC meetings held at Texas EMS Conference in November.

Texas EMS Certifications	
AS OF	
August 11, 2011 ECA	3,057
EMT	31,920
EMT-I	3,059
EMT-P	15,085
LP	5,991
Total	59,912
Basic Coordinator	113
Advanced Coordinator	221
Instructor	2,080



EMS Obituaries

Zachary Todd Jemison, 35, of Georgetown, died June 25, 2011. Jemison was a licensed paramedic with Williamson County EMS.

Todd Krodle, 41, of Caddo Mills, died August 14, 2011, from injuries sustained while fighting a fire. Krodle was a paramedic and lieutenant firefighter with Dallas Fire-Rescue for more than 17 years.

Steven McShan, 24, of Lumberton, died July 2, 2011, from injuries sustained in an off-duty accident. McShan was an EMT and firefighter with Port Arthur Fire Department.

Larry Gale Nelson, 61, of Del Rio, died August 12, 2011. Although not currently certified in EMS, Nelson was an active member of Val Verde County Volunteer Fire and Rescue and was awarded firefighter of the year in 2007.

Jason Andrew Parker, 22, of Silsbee, an EMT-Paramedic with Acadian Ambulance died at his home on July 20, 2011.

Shannon Stone, 39, of Brownwood, died July 7, 2011, from injuries sustained in a fall. Stone was an EMT and firefighter with Brownwood Fire Department for nearly 18 years.

Steve Titsworth, 60, of Austin, died June 27, 2011, from injuries sustained in a helicopter crash. Titsworth had retired as an EMT-Intermediate and firefighter with Austin Fire Department and was piloting the helicopter when it crashed.